



# News Release

**Joint Program Executive Office, Joint Tactical Radio System**

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## **JPEO JTRS Announces Single Channel Handheld Radio (CISCHR) Contract Award to Thales**

SAN DIEGO - On October 1, 2007, the Joint Program Executive Office for the Joint Tactical Radio System awarded a Delivery Order of \$128,778,475 million to Thales for single channel handheld JTRS approved radios under its Consolidated, Interim, Single-Channel, Handheld Radio (CISCHR) contract. This order encompasses the quantity of over 39,000 radios and accessories such as tactical headsets and battery chargers. The selection was made following a price competition between the vendors who will hold the CISCHR Multiple Award ID/IQ contract.

One of the main goals of the CISCHR contract is to reduce the price the Government pays for single channel hand-held radios by consolidating the Service's requirements and competing the orders amongst multiple vendors. This award for the Army represents an approximate 40 percent reduction below prices the Services paid previously under other contracts. Howard Pace, the JTRS Deputy PEO stated, "The results of the first large order clearly show the benefits of the open and competitive business model the JPEO JTRS is implementing. The result equips our soldiers on the battlefield with the latest Joint, Interoperable, tactical radio technology today at a substantially lower cost."

The CISCHR contracts require any radio provided under the contracts comply with particular "JTRS approved" standards. Those standards include, (1) NSA certification; (2) Software Communication Architecture version 2.2 (or later) certification; (3) possession of embedded reprogrammable cryptology; and (4) demonstration, through testing, of appropriate interoperability. JTRS approved radios deliver increased communications capability to our fielded forces over legacy systems.

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## About JTRS

The Joint Tactical Radio System, headquartered in San Diego, Calif, was initiated in early 1997 to improve and consolidate the Services' pursuit of separate solutions to replace existing legacy radios in the Department of Defense (DoD) inventory. The JTRS program has evolved from separate radio replacement programs to an integrated effort to network multiple weapon system platforms and forward combat units where it matters most – the last tactical mile. JTRS will link the power of the Global Information Grid to the warfighter in applying fire effects and achieving overall battlefield superiority.

JTRS is developing an open architecture of cutting edge radio waveform technology that allows multiple radio types (e.g., handheld, aircraft, maritime) to communicate with each other. The goal is to produce a family of interoperable, modular software-defined radios which operate as nodes in a network to ensure secure wireless communication and networking services for mobile and fixed forces. These goals extend to U.S. allies, coalition partners and, in time, disaster response personnel.